

VLR-4/17/73, NRAHP-6/4/73

Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE	Virginia
COUNTY:	Accomack
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON: Assateague Lighthouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Southern end of Assateague Island

CITY OR TOWN: Chincoteague vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First, Thomas N. Downing

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Accomack

CODE: 51

CODE: 001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>nautical light</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY Captain E. H. Burt, Jr., Chief, Operations Division

OWNER'S NAME: Captain E. H. Burt, Jr., Chief, Operations Division

STREET AND NUMBER: Guard, 5th Coast Guard District

Federal Building; 431 Crawford Street

CITY OR TOWN: Portsmouth

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Accomack County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Accomack

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Accomack
OR NPS USE ONLY
INVENTORY NUMBER
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Assateague Lighthouse rises from a marshy peninsula at the south end of Assateague Island. Its round brick tower supports a metal and glass cupola that encases the nautical warning light. The height from ground level to light is 129 feet. The exterior surface of the brickwork is running bond and the interior is all header bond. The thick brick walls, vertical inside and tapering on the exterior, are pierced by rectangular windows. Arched openings behind the windows allow sun-light to penetrate to the stair. The circular cast iron stair winds upward around a central post which bears its factory identification plate: "Barbier and Fenestre, Paris, 1866".

Entrance to the lighthouse is through a small brick advance building that, like the lighthouse, is seated on a stone foundation. Another small brick building, the oil house, stands to the east. The multi-sided cupola and service balcony atop the tower appear to be original, while the nineteenth-century lamp has lately been replaced with a new automatic system. The old lamp, of prisms and polished metal and made by the same company as the stair, has been retained and is on display at the site. Originally, fuel for the revolving light was carried up through the walls on a dumbwaiter.

The red brick tower, now painted with red and white horizontal bands, presents an impressive appearance in its position surrounded by the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge.

EAC.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1867

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | osophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Congress appropriated funds in 1831 for erection of a light-house in the area of Chincoteague Island. The present site was then chosen, and a structure was completed and lighted by January, 1833. The tower was soon found to be too low and the light too weak to effectively warn ships of the dangerous shoals. As a result, Congress appropriated money for the replacement of the lighthouse in 1859. Construction began the following year, but work ceased with the coming of the War Between the States. Work was resumed after the war, the interior stair and light mechanism being imported from France, and the new structure was lighted on October 1, 1867.

The lighthouse continues to be maintained as a nautical aid, and the original lamp has been replaced by an automatic lantern. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration uses the lighthouse and associated buildings in conjunction with their aeronautical activities on nearby Wallops Island.

Assateague Lighthouse is a handsome example of mid-nineteenth century lighthouse construction, and it is the only one of that period surviving in Virginia.

EAC.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Holland, Francis Ross, Jr. America's Lighthouses; Their Illustrated History Since 1716. Brattleboro, Vt., 1972.

U. S. Coast Guard, Light List - Atlantic Coast, vol. 1, 1971.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission files.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	37°	51'	49"	75°	22'	06"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than ten acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

December, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:

Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN:

Richmond

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Junius R. Fishburne, Jr. Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

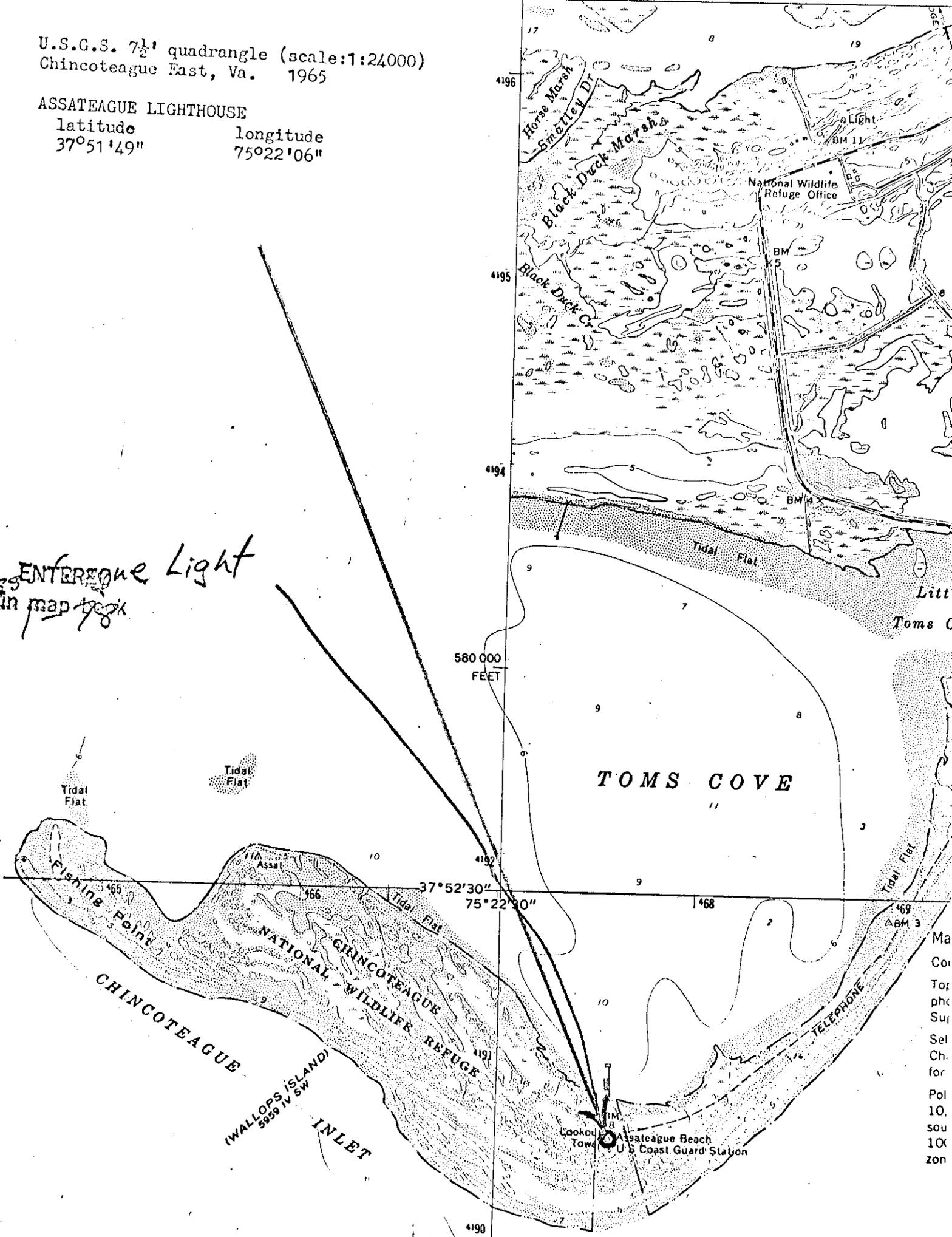
U.S.G.S. 7 1/2' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Chincoteague East, Va. 1965

ASSATEAGUE LIGHTHOUSE

latitude
37°51'49"

longitude
75°22'06"

*Assateague Light
in map book*



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